



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.  
10/822,029

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PATENT APPLICATION  
10/822,029

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Pierluigi Franco et al.  
Serial No.: 10/822, 029  
Filed: April 8, 2004  
Group No.: 2633  
Examiner: Christina Y. Leung  
Notice of Allowance Mailed: December 17, 2004  
Confirmation No.: 1694

**Mail Stop Issue Fee**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-20. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.104, Applicants respectfully issue a statement commenting on the Examiner's reasons for allowance. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's reasons for allowance to the extent that they are inconsistent with applicable case law, statutes, and regulations. Furthermore, Applicants do not admit to any characterization or limitation of the claims or to any characterization of a reference by the Examiner, particularly any that are inconsistent with the language of the claims considered in their entirety and including all of their constituent limitations.

Respectfully submitted,  
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
Attorneys for Applicants

Barton E. Showalter  
Registration No. 38,302

Date: March 15, 2005  
CUSTOMER NO. 05073